

## Girls Win Best Prizes In "Perfect Baby" Contest; Superior Sex Is Inferior

Bernice Weinthal, Harlem  
Flat Product, Is Nearest  
to "Perfect Child."

There was no flattery for the male sex in the awards of winners in the interborough baby contest which has just ended. Girls just ran away with the prizes presented by the Parents' Association of Public School No. 93 at the school, Amsterdam Avenue and 95th Street, last night. It was the seventh annual contest and the alleged weaker sex again displayed marked superiority in physical development and "a shade the better" mentally, according to Dr. Irving D. Steinhardt, No. 252 West 78th Street, who judged the winners.

Not only did the girls take most of the prizes, but the "perfect child," according to Dr. Steinhardt's tests, was a lassie, Bernice Weinthal. At four years and three months she scored 995 points out of a possible 1,000 and far outranked all other entrants. It was said. She took first prize in the oldest class, four to five years.

Stephanie O'Neill, No. 126 West 100th Street, and Virginia M. Smith, No. 514 West 135th Street, were tied for second in the four to five year class.

Other prize winners were:  
Twins—Tie between James and John Wentz, four months old, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin T. Wentz, No. 253 First Avenue, and Rita Virginia and Anna May Morrissey, eight months, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Morrissey, No. 942 Columbus Avenue.

Birth to six months—Eloise Miller, No. 611 West 204th Street, first prize. Her mother brought the child for examination in the contest when it was three weeks old. Now it is a month old. Elizabeth McGuire, No. 357 West 116th Street, and Veronica Barrett, No. 1570 First Avenue, tied for second prize.

Six months to one year—Walter Doremus, No. 1751 Avenue A, first prize; Flora E. Howe, care The Red Eucer, Clason Point, the Bronx, and George F. Horton, No. 2166 Seventh Avenue, tied for second prize.

One to two years—Lucille O'Mara, No. 305 West 117th Street, first prize; Martha Bennett, No. 223 Grand Concourse, the Bronx, and Edward R. Susman, No. 138 West 97th Street, tied for second prize.

Two to three years—Roline Morrissey, No. 514 East 123d Street, first prize; Helen Howland, No. 274 University Avenue, the Bronx, second prize. These two girls were tied for first prize in the one to two year class, but during the past twelve months Roline gained ten points over her rival.

Three to four years—Dolly Wilson, No. 127 East 116th Street, first prize; Barbara Peters, No. 456 West 135th Street, second prize.

Brooklyn entrants failed to qualify and made a much poorer showing than last year, when several babies received honorable mention.

"NO ONE IS PERFECT," SAYS EXPERT.

"The only reason Bernice (the 'perfect child') did not score the possible 1,000 points," explained Dr. Stein-

hardt, "was because no one is perfect, although I was able to find not a single physical defect, internal or external, nor did her mental test show the slightest tendency to fail. The only question was should Bernice get 995 or 996."

Bernice is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weinthal, No. 301 West 125th Street. Last year she won the two-to-three year prize and the year before that the one-to-two year prize. Her little sister, Lillian, who is a blonde replica of the darker Bernice, last year won the infant prize. Lillian is now fifteen months old and barely missed the one-to-two year prize this year.

Care, not environment, seems to be the most important factor in raising a child, for Bernice lives in a third floor flat in the middle of Harlem and the two prize twins live in congested tenement districts. Other prize winners show the same condition. But their mothers feed them properly and on time, give them plenty of fresh air and put them to bed early and at the same hour every day. Naps, too, seem to be an important part of the regime.

The question of attention was emphasized by Dr. Steinhardt who said most of the defects were not organic but due to improper feeding and unintelligent care.

"Probably the most prevalent defect among the 2,500 or more babies entered in this contest," he said, "was tonsils and adenoids. This is due, in

part, to climatic conditions. But I don't want anyone to get the impression that I favor indiscriminate operations because of the prevalence of adenoids and tonsils. They should be removed, by all means, but only when they interfere with physical or mental development.

SOME DEFECTS CAUSED BY FOOLISH MOTHERS.

"The next defect most common with children is weak teeth. This is but a natural result of the insane desire of mothers to put their children in slippers or pumps. Just because they look nice. Bowlegs are also quite common. This ailment is due either to making children walk too soon or permitting them to stand too much and too early. Bowlegs also result from rickets and improper feeding.

"You cannot emphasize too much the danger in wrong diet. A woman entered her child from up-State and I found it undernourished. When I asked her what she fed the child she named a proprietary milk food. And yet she comes from the best milk section in the State. Why will mothers be so foolish? Another mother came in with a year old child and both were chewing gum. The wonder is the babies live at all. 'Glandular swellings and other organic defects are quite evident but these can be overcome in young children if taken in time and properly treated.

"Entries this year would have reached nearly 5,000 if I had not been compelled to call a halt. I use the Benet test for mental examination, while I take full measurements and soundings in the physical examination. It is curious that most boys who come here are far more bashful than the girls. They usually hang on to their mothers and don't answer questions. Quite frequently grandmothers come along to help sing the praises of their descendants, while

one woman's claim for a prize for her baby was that her husband had deserted her. There was a large number of twins entered this year, thirty sets."

The prizes, contributed by members of the association, were useful articles, and in many cases procured with the winner in mind. Clothing and money were much in evidence among the awards, which were distributed by Health Commissioner Copeland.

Every borough in the city was represented. An unusually interesting feature was the increased number of negro children entered. They showed a marked improvement in every way over previous years and gave indication of intelligent care and training by their parents.

## BARS ALIENS EXEMPT IN WAR AS CITIZENS

Justice Martin, in the Bronx, Refuses Naturalization Papers to Many Applicants.

Justice Francis Martin, of the Bronx Supreme Court, sitting as special Justice for naturalization week, to-day refused first citizenship papers to more than a dozen applicants who had claimed and secured exemption from army service during the war on the ground they were alien enemies.

Nathan Weirberg, who keeps a cloth-

ing store at No. 734 East 150th Street, was among those rejected. He admitted he had made good wages during the war and had no one dependent upon him.

"You made good wages while our boys were over there making sacrifices," said the court. "You were making money out of their necessities. I don't think a man like you could make a good American citizen."

Justice Martin will sit to-morrow, and this will be the first time a court has been open on Saturday in the Bronx for naturalization purposes. He had to absent himself yesterday to attend a funeral, and there are about 1,500 applicants for citizenship papers.

## NOT GILDA GRAY, DANCER.

Woman Injured in Taxi Accident Gave the Same Name.

Gilda Gray, the dancer, to-day at her home, No. 325 West 77th Street, was surprised to learn that a young woman giving the name of "Gilda Gray" had gone to Roosevelt Hospital earlier in the day with an injured spine she said she received in a fall from a taxicab at 54th Street and Broadway, when the door flew open. "Can't understand it," said the dancer. "You see I'm not the person and I can think of no one who would do such a thing as to give my name."

I came home after the performance last night and was here at that time. Anyway, I didn't fall out of a cab and didn't go to a hospital."

Three Former Dry Chiefs Become Partners.

Under the firm name of Boyd, Phagan & Shevlin three former prohibition enforcement agents stationed in New York, have formed a partnership for the purpose of engaging in the business of adjusting income taxes. They are James Shevlin of Brooklyn, Frank L. Boyd of Washington and Knox Phagan of Tennessee. All were connected with the internal revenue service for many years and before being drafted to the prohibition end were in the income tax department. Their office is at No. 25 West 43d Street.

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## The Dread Pyorrhea Begins With Bleeding Gums

Pyorrhea's infecting germs cause many ills. Medical science has proven this.

Diseased conditions, which not long ago doctors were unable to trace to a cause, are now known often to be the result of Pyorrhea germs that breed in pockets about the teeth. Rheumatism, anaemia, nervous disorders and other diseases have been traced in many cases to this Pyorrhea infection.

Don't let Pyorrhea work its wicked will on your body. Visit your dentist frequently for tooth and gum inspection.

And watch your gums yourself. Pyorrhea, which afflicts four out of five people over forty, begins with tender and bleeding gums; then the gums recede, the teeth decay, loosen and fall out, or must be extracted to rid the system of poisons generated at their base.

Forhan's For the Gums will prevent Pyorrhea—or check its progress, if used in time and used consistently. Ordinary dentifrices cannot do this. Forhan's keeps the gums hard and healthy—the teeth white and clean. Start using it today. If gum-shrinkage has already set in, use Forhan's according to directions and consult a dentist immediately for special treatment.

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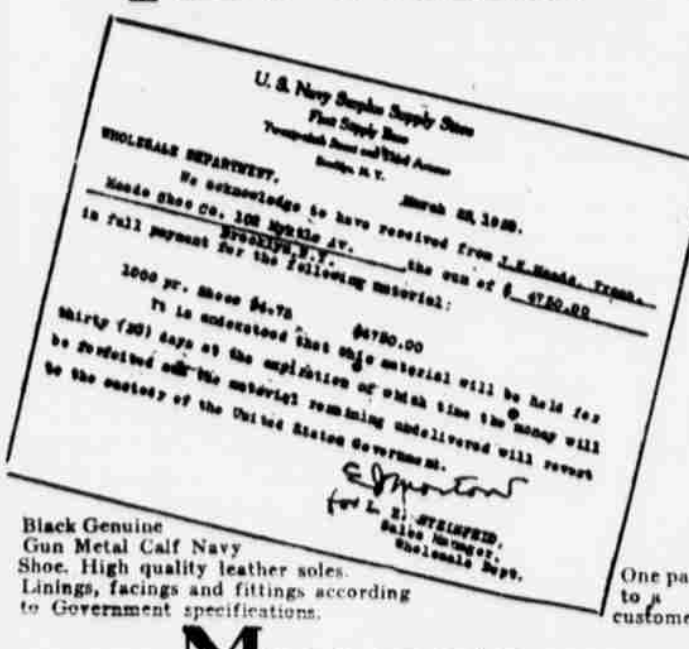


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